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37. The bed of claim 27, further comprising a switch panel coupled to the display panel and configured to receive input from a caregiver.

38. A bed comprising:

a frame;

a deck supported by the frame;

a patient support surface supported by the deck;

a siderail coupled to one of the frame and the deck, the siderail being configured to move between a raised position in which at least a portion of the siderail extends above the patient support surface and a lowered position in which the siderail is positioned below the patient support surface; and

a display screen coupled to the siderail and configured to convey variable graphical information.

39. The bed of claim 38, wherein the siderail includes a side wall having a surface and a recess formed in the surface, and the display screen is movable between a first position in which the display screen is positioned to lie in the recess and a second position in which at least a majority of the display screen is positioned to lie outside the recess.

40. The bed of claim 38, wherein the display screen is part of a pad that includes a switch panel configured to receive input from a user.

41. The bed of claim 38, wherein the display screen comprises a liquid crystal display.

42. The bed of claim 38, wherein the display screen faces away from the deck.

43. The bed of claim 38, further comprising:

a user input;

a controller in electrical communication with the user input and the display screen; and

wherein the controller is configured to display the variable graphical information on the display screen.

44. The bed of claim 43, wherein the controller provides a menu driven list of selectable options on the display screen to permit selection of control options using the user input.

45. The bed of claim 38, wherein the display screen is pivotably coupled to the siderail.

46. The bed of claim 45, wherein the display screen is movable between a first substantially vertical position and a second substantially horizontal position.

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47. The bed of claim 45, wherein the display screen is pivotably coupled to the siderail about a pivot axis adjacent to a top end of the display screen.

48. A bed comprising:

a frame;

a deck coupled to the frame;

a patient support surface located on the deck;

a communication network having a plurality of module connection points;

a graphic caregiver interface module coupled to a first module connection point of the network, the graphic caregiver interface module including an input device, a control circuit coupled to the network and to the input device, the control circuit including means for transmitting control signals over the network, a memory coupled to the control circuit for storing predetermined graphic format data, and a display coupled to the control circuit; and

a siderail coupled to one of the frame and the deck, the display of the graphic caregiver interface module being supported by the siderail.

49. The bed of claim 48, wherein the siderail includes a side wall having a surface and a recess formed in the surface, and the display is coupled to the siderail and movable between a first position in which the display is positioned to lie in the recess and a second position in which at least a majority of the display is positioned to lie outside the recess.

50. The bed of claim 48, wherein the siderail is configured to move between a raised position in which at least a portion of the siderail extends above the patient support surface and a lowered position in which the siderail is positioned below the patient support surface.

51. The bed of claim 48, wherein the display comprises a liquid crystal display.

52. The bed of claim 48, further comprising a control module coupled to a second module connection point of the communication network and configured to perform a dedicated function on the bed.

53. The bed of claim 52, wherein the control circuit is configured to receive commands from the control module to retrieve stored graphic format data from the memory and to output the graphic format data on the display to provide a menu-driven control for the control module using the input device.

54. The bed of claim 52, wherein the control module comprises a bed articulation control module configured to move the deck in response to control signals from the control circuit.